

(O-97-55)

ORDINANCE NUMBER O- 18357 (NEW SERIES)

ADOPTED ON NOV 12 1996

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER VI, ARTICLE 3, DIVISION 1, OF THE SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE BY ADDING SECTION 63.0120 RELATING TO CURFEWS IN DOWNTOWN PARKS.

WHEREAS, numerous citizens have expressed concerns regarding illegal, unsanitary, and other undesirable activities, which have been occurring within downtown parks, continuing well into the night and early morning hours, and creating an atmosphere of intimidation for general park users; and

WHEREAS, community leaders and individual residents from surrounding park neighborhoods have also voiced concerns regarding the disturbing effects associated with the variety of illicit activities observed within the recently opened Gaslamp Square Park and Pantoja Park; and

WHEREAS, these illicit activities will have negative and highly visible impacts on the parks in the downtown area, in particular the recently opened Children's Park and the soon-to-be completed Washington Elementary School Park, both of which will be used primarily by children; and

WHEREAS, the potential for exposure to drug paraphernalia and other debris from prior evening activities gives rise to serious public health and safety issues; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 1996, representatives of the Centre City Development Corporation, the City Attorney's Office, the Police Department, and the Park and Recreation Department met to address these citizen concerns, and recommended establishing a downtown park curfew from midnight to 6:00 a.m. in order to make the parks safer and more enjoyable for all San Diegans; and

WHEREAS, the San Diego Police Department and the San Diego Unified School District support such a curfew, since the curfew would enable the Police Department to more easily clear the parks and curb illegal activities; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety and Services Committee at its meeting of September 18, 1996, recommended adoption of the curfew on a one-year trial basis, as set forth in City Manager's Report No. 96-181; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, as follows:

Section 1. That Chapter VI, Article 3, Division 1 of the San Diego Municipal Code is hereby amended by amending Section 63.0120, to read as follows:

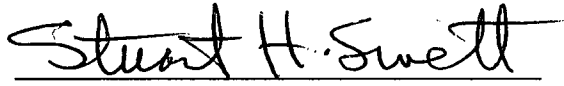
**SEC. 63.0120 Use of Public Parks and Beaches Regulated**

It is unlawful for any person to be in or about the grounds of the following parks from midnight until 6:00 a.m.: Children's Park, Gaslamp Square Park, Pantoja Park, and Washington Elementary School Park.

Section 2. This ordinance will take effect and be in force on the thirtieth day from and after its passage and will expire one year after its adoption unless otherwise extended by resolution of the City Council.

APPROVED: JOHN W. WITT, City Attorney

By



Mary Kay Jackson  
Deputy City Attorney

For

MKJ:mb:pev

10/09/96

Or.Dept:Pk&Rec

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